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Letter dated 31 July 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the pleasure of enclosing an assessment of the work of the Security Council during the Bangladesh Presidency in June 2001 (see annex), prepared in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council dated 12 June 1997 (S/1997/451) for inclusion in the report of the Security Council to the General Assembly.

This assessment has been prepared on my own responsibility, but following consultations with members of the Council. It is intended for informative purposes and should not necessarily be considered as representing the views of the Security Council.

I should be grateful if you could also kindly arrange to have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Anwarul Karim **Chowdhury**
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of Bangladesh to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 31 July 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Assessment of the work of the Security Council

Bangladesh (June 2001)

In June 2001, under the Presidency of Ambassador Anwarul Karim Chowdhury, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh, the Security Council addressed a number of major issues in the Council's agenda. The Council was actively seized of issues including Iraq-Kuwait, Afghanistan, Sierra Leone, Burundi, Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Eritrea and Ethiopia, and Western Sahara. The Council also marked an important step forward by adopting resolution 1353 (2001) on cooperation with the troop-contributing countries.

A major focus of the month was the Council debate with participation of a large number of non-members on prevention of armed conflict following the issuance of the seminal report of the Secretary-General on the subject (S/2001/574 and Corr.1). An important initiative was the Council mission to Kosovo to enhance support for implementation of resolution 1244 (1999) and to observe the operations of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK).

In June, at the initiative of the President, the Council acted on the appointment of the Secretary-General and recommended, unanimously without a vote, the appointment of Mr. Kofi Annan for a second term. Upon this recommendation, the General Assembly subsequently reappointed the Secretary-General.

During the month, the Council held 18 public meetings, 4 of which required resumption in view of the participation of a large number of United Nations members. The Council held two private meetings, one on the appointment of the Secretary-General and the other on Burundi. The members of the Council held 17 informal consultations of the whole devoted to consideration of issues, negotiations on texts of resolutions and statements and briefings by the Secretariat. During these consultations, the members of the Council addressed 24 agenda items and also discussed a total of 48 issues under other matters.

In June, the Council considered 13 reports by the Secretary-General and adopted 8 resolutions including three in respect of extension of the mandate of four peacekeeping operations, namely, UNFICYP, MONUC, UNMIBH and MINURSO, and issued two statements by the President of the Council. In addition, the President made statements to the press on Afghanistan, Burundi, Eritrea and Ethiopia and Sierra Leone.

As the large number of public meetings indicates, at the initiative of the Bangladesh Presidency, the Council made every effort, in keeping with its commitment, to have increased recourse to public meetings. The Council made further progress in bringing greater openness and transparency in its working methods and in promoting participation of non-members in the Council meetings.

Appointment of the Secretary-General

The Bangladesh Presidency took the initiative of consulting with members of the Security Council during the first days of the month to have a decision on the appointment of Secretary-General Kofi Annan for a second five-year term. To this end, the President held extensive consultations with the members, individually and collectively, to finalize the process. On the advice of the Council members he also consulted the President of the General Assembly and the Secretariat to clarify and advance some aspects of the process.

A number of informal consultations were held before the Council met on 27 June, pursuant to its provisional rules of procedure, in private (4337th meeting). The Council took the decision to recommend to the General Assembly to reappoint Mr. Kofi Annan for a second term ending 31 December 2006 by its resolution 1358 (2001). The resolution was adopted by consensus without a vote, waiving the provision for secret ballot as stipulated in its rules of procedure.

Following the adoption, the President of the Council, while conveying the decision to members of the media, mentioned the excellent performance of the incumbent Secretary-General in reforming the United Nations to make it more relevant in meeting the

challenges of the twenty-first century. He also highlighted the role Mr. Annan had been playing in resolution of conflicts in various parts of the world and in strengthening the United Nations peacekeeping operations.

As agreed at the informal consultations, all members of the Council co-sponsored the draft resolution on the appointment of the Secretary-General to be submitted to the General Assembly and introduced in plenary meeting on 29 June by the President of the Security Council.

Africa

Burundi

The Presidency took the initiative to address the situation in Burundi as part of a further follow-up of the report of the Council mission to the Great Lakes region (S/2001/521). The members of the Council reviewed the situation in view of the findings of the Council mission as continued hostilities threatened the fragile peace process. Following the discussion, the President of the Council made a statement to the press (see annex IV) and also drew the attention of the Government of Burundi, the Representative of the Secretary-General, Jean Arnault, and OAU Secretary-General Salim A. Salim.

This was an instance where the Council members addressed an issue and made efforts at preventing deterioration of a situation without waiting for dealing with it as a calendar event.

The Council held a private meeting on 28 June to hear a briefing by Mathias Sinamenye, second Vice-President of Burundi, who provided his Government's perspective of the situation and views on the peace process. Following consultations, the draft of a statement was tabled by Bangladesh. The Council met again on 29 June in a public meeting at which the President read out the statement (S/PRST/2001/17).

The issuance of the statement followed a thorough consideration of the situation in Burundi with the participation of Berhanu Dinka, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes region and Jean Arnault, Representative of the Secretary-General for Burundi. In the statement, the Council called for an immediate suspension of hostilities and urged the armed groups to enter into negotiations. The Council also encouraged the Secretary-General, through his representatives, to continue to engage the armed groups and contribute to coordinated efforts to bring about a political settlement of the conflict.

The Council expressed grave concern at the continuing human rights abuses and violations of humanitarian law in Burundi, and urged the belligerents to commit themselves immediately to the protection of civilians. The Council called on the donors to increase humanitarian and development assistance to the people of Burundi in keeping with the pledges made by the international community at the Paris Donor Conference on 11 and 12 December 2000.

The Council received reports that suffering in Burundi continued unabated. The grave humanitarian situation and the fragility of the peace process will need the close attention of the Council so that support for the peace process and international attention to Burundi are maintained.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

The Council members held informal consultations on 12 June on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and considered action on the basis of the eighth report of the Secretary-General (S/2001/572). They also had the report of the Security Council mission to the Great Lakes region (S/2001/521). The members agreed with the recommendations of the Secretary-General in favour of a transition to the third phase of MONUC deployment, prior to entry into the third phase, since the parties were yet to fulfil the requisite conditions.

They also agreed to the conclusion that the plans drawn up by the Joint Military Commission and the Political Committee for withdrawal of all foreign forces and the disarmament, demobilization, reintegration, repatriation or resettlement of armed groups did not constitute a sufficient basis for further action by the United Nations at this stage.

At a public meeting on 15 June, the Council decided by resolution 1355 (2001) to extend the mandate of MONUC, as recommended by the Secretary-General, by 12 months, until 15 June 2002, with the authorized military strength of 5,537. The Secretary-General in his report drew attention to the need for considerable expansion of civilian components of the Mission as it entered the third phase. Member

States would be required to provide necessary human and material resources for the success of the mission.

Eritrea and Ethiopia

The members of the Council reviewed the situation in Ethiopia and Eritrea on 25 June. They had the Secretary-General's progress report on the situation (S/2001/608). This was the first such report since the Council lifted the arms embargo on the two countries on 16 May 2001. The Secretariat introduced the report and provided updates.

The two major issues before the Council were the temporary security zone and the Boundary and Claims Commissions. Despite a general calm along the frontier, excessive deployment of militia and policemen by Eritrea in the temporary security zone and also Ethiopian deployment along the eastern border of the zone had been causing tension. The situation improved with the decision of Ethiopia to withdraw its forces from the eastern border of the zone. The establishment of the temporary security zone had been a major step ahead. However, important aspects remained unaccomplished, such as a clear definition of the zone and demilitarization.

Following consultations, the President of the Council made a statement to the press, inter alia, reiterating the call on the two countries for early establishment of a direct air corridor between Asmara and Addis Ababa; and urging both parties, particularly Eritrea, to sign the status-of-forces agreement and ensure the freedom of movement of UNMEE (see annex IV).

Sierra Leone

On 6 June, the Security Council held consultations on the situation of the refugees and internally displaced persons in Sierra Leone as well as in the Mano River Union region. The Council had before it a report of the Secretary-General (S/2000/513 and Corr.1) issued pursuant to paragraph 9 of Security Council resolution 1346 (2000). The Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Hédi Annabi, introduced the report and briefed the Council on the latest situation.

After a substantive discussion on the situation of refugees and internally displaced persons in and around Sierra Leone, the President of the Security Council made a statement to the press highlighting the views of Council members on the issue, in which, inter alia, Council members expressed concern at the continuing humanitarian crisis in the Mano River Union countries, appreciated the additional burden placed on the host countries and their population as a result of the crisis and commended their efforts, and urged all parties to ensure the human rights and security of all refugees and internally displaced persons as well as the security of the humanitarian personnel (see annex IV).

On 28 June, the Security Council held a public meeting on the situation in Sierra Leone. The Council had before it the tenth report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (S/2001/627) and heard a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Oluyemi Adeniji, as well as his introduction of the report, which covered developments in the area since 14 March 2001.

The Special Representative mentioned that UNAMSIL had continued to work closely with the Government of Sierra Leone and had enhanced its contacts with the Revolutionary United Front, which had positive effects on the Kambia disarmament and on the implementation of the Abuja Ceasefire Agreement. The Force Commander, Lieutenant General Daniel Opande, was also present during the meeting.

Council members recognized during the meeting that although the peace process in Sierra Leone had witnessed remarkable progress in the recent months, a lot of challenges remained. They appreciated the positive contributions of UNAMSIL in furthering the peace process. They also stressed the importance of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme for long-term peace in Sierra Leone and underlined the need for availability of necessary resources for its success.

Council members expressed concern at the humanitarian situation in Sierra Leone and the region and at violations of human rights of the refugees and the internally displaced persons. They also appreciated the role of ECOWAS in support of the peace process and called upon the Government of Sierra Leone to take steps for the extension of its authority as UNAMSIL progressively deployed in rebel-dominated areas of the country.

Somalia

On 11 June, the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Ibrahima Fall, briefed the Council

members on the recent developments in Somalia. He informed the Council that on 8 June, the Deputy Defence Minister of the Transitional National Government of Somalia had alleged that some 300 Ethiopian troops had marched into Somali territory overnight in Bakool region, which is close to Mogadishu. Ethiopia rejected the allegation as an unfounded press report.

The United Nations Political Office for Somalia in Nairobi requested details from the Transnational National Government concerning the allegation which remained to be received. The Secretariat informed the Council that, as the Office did not have any verification mechanism, it could not confirm the reported development. As agreed at the meeting, the Council President later conveyed the Council's concerns to the representative of Ethiopia.

Western Sahara

The report of the Secretary-General (S/2001/613) was considered in consultations held on 26 June with the participation of the Secretary-General. The Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General, James Baker, briefed the Council. This was his first appearance before the Council since 1997. The report specifically recommended an extension of the mandate of MINURSO for five months in order to allow time to initiate negotiations on a proposed framework agreement on the status of Western Sahara. Council members held consultations on 28 and 29 June to finalize the draft resolution on Western Sahara. The resolution (1359 (2001)) extending the mandate until 30 November 2001 was adopted by a unanimous vote on 29 June.

Asia

Afghanistan

On 5 June, the report of the five-member Committee of Experts, established pursuant to Security Council resolution 1333 (2000), was introduced at the Council's consultations of the whole by Ambassador Alfonso Valdivieso (Colombia), Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1333 (2000). Following consultations, the Council held its 4325th meeting in public to elaborately consider the report. Ambassador Haile Menkerios, Chairman of the Committee of Experts, responded to questions and comments of delegations.

The members of the Council were generally supportive towards establishing a new monitoring mechanism for sanctions in Afghanistan, as the Panel recommended. There was also general support on other recommendations of the Panel, such as banning aircraft turbine fuel, special fluids and lubricants, banning chemicals used in heroin production, monitoring the movement of arms, and international support to strengthen capacities of border services in neighbouring countries. The general thrust of the report that a political solution remained the only road to pursue to end the Afghanistan conflict was also noted. Council members agreed to consider the report's recommendations in the context of the Committee and subsequently by the Council itself.

Return of Kuwaiti property

In consultations held on 20 June, the Council heard a briefing by the High-level Coordinator on the issue of Kuwaiti missing property. No progress was reported as Iraq continued to refuse cooperation with the High-level Coordinator and affirmed his impartiality. In a statement to the press, the President of the Security Council conveyed the unanimous support of the members of the Council for the work of the High-level Coordinator. Members of the Council also called upon the Government of Iraq to cooperate fully with the Coordinator and stressed the importance of a dialogue with him.

Situation between Iraq and Kuwait

Following the adoption of resolution 1352 (2001), by which the Council extended the oil-for-food programme, phase IX, until 3 July 2001, Council members engaged in discussions on the United Kingdom/United States draft resolution on new arrangements. At the same time, the discussion on the goods review list, which was proposed as an annex to the draft resolution, also continued, mostly in the capitals. Progress was made in the expert level negotiations, which was reviewed at Ambassador level in Council consultations on 7, 14 and 20 June. The negotiation also covered, among others, issues relating to Iraq's trade with some neighbouring countries.

On 15 June, the Council was briefed by the President on the outcome of the Secretary-General's

meeting in the region with the Prime Ministers of the Syrian Arab Republic and Jordan. On 26 June, the Council held an open debate on the issue, during which, apart from Council members, a large number of non-members including Iraq made statements. The debate was resumed on 28 June in order to complete a long list of speakers. Till the end of the month, discussion on the United Kingdom/United States draft resolution continued in Council consultations.

Europe

Bosnia and Herzegovina

On 15 June, the Council heard a briefing from Jacques Paul Klein, Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Coordinator of the United Nations Operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He gave an update of developments in Bosnia and Herzegovina and progress achieved by UNMIBH. The other members participating in the discussion were representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sweden (Presidency of the European Union) and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

The Council members had before them the report of the Secretary-General on UNMIBH (S/2001/571 and Corr.1), and document S/2001/542, containing the text of a letter dated 30 May 2001 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council, transmitting a letter dated 8 May 2001 from the Secretary-General of NATO, enclosing the monthly report on Stabilization Force (SFOR) operations. The Council adopted a resolution on 21 June, by which, inter alia, it extended the mandate of UNMIBH until 21 June 2002.

Cyprus

The members of the Council considered the situation in Cyprus on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General (S/2001/534) on 11 June. The Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Cyprus, Alvaro de Soto, participated in the consultations to provide a briefing and his assessment of the situation. Owing to the complexity and sensitivity of the situation in Cyprus, it was felt by the Council that the most judicious action would be to allow the efforts of the Secretary-General to continue. The President of the Council made a statement to the press expressing full support for the Secretary-General's continued efforts to achieve a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem (see annex IV). Subsequently, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 1354 (2001) extending the mandate of UNFICYP until 15 December 2001.

Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

The Council on 19 June considered the report of the Security Council mission to Kosovo (S/2001/600) and the report of the Secretary-General of UNMIK (S/2001/565). Also before the Council were a letter dated 22 May 2001 from Sweden addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2001/538); a letter dated 5 June 2001 from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2001/563); and a letter dated 15 June 2001 from the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2001/601).

The representatives of Albania, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Sweden (in its capacity as the Presidency of the European Union) participated. The Council also heard a briefing on the situation in Kosovo from the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Jean-Marie Guéhenno, thus giving the Council members the first opportunity to discuss the main challenges in Kosovo since the visit of the Council mission.

The main message of the open meeting revolved around a few key points: the indispensability of multi-ethnicity in Kosovo; the need for the engagement of all communities in the political process and the expediency of confidence-building measures. The meeting was also extremely timely in its sequence, as it was held immediately after the Council mission completed its visit to Pristina, Mitrovica and Belgrade.

Security Council mission to Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

From 15 to 19 June the Security Council mission visited Kosovo, a first ever to include all 15 members of the Council. The message it carried was to shun extremism and commit all efforts to building a multi-ethnic society. The mission was significant in a number of other ways. It was the first mission led by a Council President. The mission included in its itinerary a visit to Belgrade, where it had a good discussion with the President of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Vojislav Kostunica, the Foreign Minister and the Minister of the Interior. The mission also had an

unscheduled, but substantive and important meeting with the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin.

In Kosovo, the Council mission undertook a series of meetings with the key actors, and interacted with the representatives of various communities, in addition to meeting with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Hans Haekerrup, and the KFOR Commander, General Thorstein Skiaker. The Council mission travelled to Mitrovica and met with representatives of the Kosovo Albanian and Serb communities in back-to-back meetings. The Council urged both communities to reach out so that their efforts could jointly contribute to the future of Kosovo. At the initiative of the Head of the Mission, a representative group of Kosovo women's non-governmental organizations met with members of the mission. The representatives underlined the need to involve women in peace negotiations and in the political decision-making process.

The mission in its interaction with the ethnic communities could sense their clear desire for return to normalcy, restitution of law and order and economic reconstruction. The mission made use of all opportunities to send a strong message to the ethnic communities to reject all violence, to promote stability, safety and security, and to cooperate fully with UNMIK in the implementation of resolution 1244 (1999). The mission during its visit made a number of important observations and findings, which are set out in detail in its report (S/2001/600). The report was formally presented by the President and Head of the Council mission on 19 June, the day after the return of the mission.

Meetings with the troop-contributing countries

The President chaired four meetings with troop-contributing countries in connection with the extension of the mandate of four operations, namely, UNFICYP, MONUC, UNMIBH and MINURSO. Those meetings were essentially informative in nature. The troop-contributing countries in each case agreed with the recommendations of the Secretary-General. There was no disagreement between the Council and the troop-contributing countries.

A meeting of the civilian police contributors to UNMIK was held prior to the departure of the Council mission to Kosovo. The President briefed the contributors about the objectives of the mission. The Secretariat provided a briefing on the situation highlighting the contribution of those contributors.

Other matters

A part of the time in informal consultations is spent in considering scheduled items, organizational matters and negotiation of texts. In June, the Council members devoted considerable time to issues addressed under "Other matters", often in view of developments and in a proactive manner without waiting for the routine review, report or briefing by the Secretariat.

The members of the Council thus remained actively seized of the situation in Burundi, Somalia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Afghanistan, Kosovo, Western Sahara, Cyprus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sierra Leone, Iraq, HIV/AIDS, the Balkans, Iraq/Kuwait and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as well as follow-up of the mission to the Great Lakes region.

Working luncheon with the Secretary-General

The monthly working luncheon with the Secretary-General provides an occasion for an informal exchange of views between the Council members and the Secretary-General on some of the issues requiring specific attention. The President of the Council hosted the luncheon on 27 June; three issues, the Middle East and Palestine, Burundi and Kosovo, were discussed. The Secretary-General briefed the Council members about his visit to the Middle East. The President conveyed his views following the Council mission to Kosovo. In addition, senior officials closely involved in the Council's work also participated. The participation of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Berhanu Dinka, and the Representative of the Secretary-General, Jean Arnault, in the discussion on Burundi provided further insights into the situation.

Thematic, operational and organizational issues

Prevention of armed conflict

A major focus of the month was the Council debate on prevention of armed conflict following the issuance of the report of the Secretary-General on the subject (S/2001/574 and Corr.1). The participation in the daylong debate on 21 June by a large number of non-members demonstrated the commitment of the Member States to conflict prevention. Given the importance of the subject, the meeting was presided over by Abdus Samad Azad, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh.

During the debate, the report of the Secretary-General and the recommendations contained therein received a generally positive response from the members of the Council and the many Members participating in the open debate. The Bangladesh Presidency took the initiative in following up, with a resolution, the report and the debate.

The Council was right in taking the lead in expressing support for the report and its recommendations. Because, in the first place, it was the Council which had asked for the report and prevention is part of the Council's primary responsibility of maintaining international peace and security. The Council responded on time to the recommendations specifically addressed to the Council. By expressing its support for the recommendations within the Council's competence, it encouraged early and positive consideration of the recommendations for action by other major organs, funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, the non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

Cooperation with the troop-contributing countries

The adoption of resolution 1353 (2001) by a unanimous vote marked a major step forward in strengthening cooperation with the troop-contributing countries. Under the resolution, the troop-contributing countries were recognized as important partners for peacekeeping cooperation. Elaborate provisions are made in the resolution for consultation with the troop-contributing countries at different stages of peacekeeping operations from their inception to their closing. The resolution also set out provisions on different formats, procedures and documentation in respect of meetings with the troop-contributing countries.

Working methods

The President and representatives of two other members, Colombia and the United Kingdom, participated at a meeting of the General Assembly working group on Security Council reforms devoted to working methods. The President of the Council shared the experience over the year in the Council and noted the improvements made in the Council's working methods. The Ambassadors of Colombia and the United Kingdom added further reflections on how to improve the functioning of the Security Council and its cooperation with the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.

In pursuance of the Council's commitment to transparency the President provided a substantive briefing to the non-members and the press following consultations of the whole.

Working Group on Documentation and Procedures

Despite the intensive programme, the Bangladesh Presidency devoted attention to review of the Council's working methods. The Bangladesh Presidency convened two meetings of the Council's Working Group on Documentation and Procedures. A note issued by the President of the Security Council on 29 June provides for strengthening the practice with regard to communication and dissemination of Council decisions and statements (S/2001/640).

The note brings about three important improvements. Henceforth, press statements made on behalf of the Council members by the President will be issued as United Nations press releases, thus ensuring their wide dissemination. Secondly, as a matter of standard practice, Council decisions and statements will now be brought by the President to the notice not only of the Member States concerned but also of concerned regional organizations and arrangements. Thirdly, the Secretary-General will, through his representatives in the field, arrange for timely and effective communication of Council decisions and statements as well as their widest possible dissemination.

During the Bangladesh chairmanship of the Working Group, which met after more than a year, besides the note on communication and dissemination of Council decisions and statements, two other issues were put on the table for consideration: the format of Council meetings and review implementation of relevant notes and statements by the President.

The last note on the matter, S/1999/1291 dated 30 December 1999, set out two categories: "public" and "private" meetings, in conformity with the terms used in the Council's provisional rules of procedures. The note provided for three sub-categories of private meetings without attributing any name to them. However, the monthly programme of work continues to use various terms — open briefing, open debate, formal meeting, closed meeting, open meeting etc. to designate different formats and their variants. There is no document that clearly and fully describes the format of Council meetings.

To address the problem, Bangladesh proposed a draft note by the President of the Council in the Working Group on Documentation and Procedures. The Working Group was unable to reach agreement on issuance of a formal note describing the format of the meetings. In the absence of an agreement, the Working Group decided to postpone consideration of the issue.

The other item under consideration concerned review of implementation of relevant notes and statements by the President of the Council. The Chair proposed review of the provisions contained in particular in the notes dated 30 December 1999 (S/1999/1291, 28 February 1994 (S/1994/230), and 17 February 1999 (S/1999/165) and the presidential statement of 16 December 1994 (S/PRST/1994/81). The following issues were proposed by the Chair for discussion and follow-up:

- Increased recourse to public meetings;
- Making drafts of resolutions and presidential statements available to non-members of the Council as soon as they are introduced at the informal consultations;
- Briefing of the non-members in a substantive and detailed manner shortly after informal consultations;
- Drafting of resolutions and statements in a manner that would allow adequate participation of all members of the Council;
- Making copies of President's statements to the media available to non-members of the Council;
- Making briefing notes on field operations available to non-members of the Council;
- Format of meetings;
- Making provisional texts of draft resolutions available to non-members of the Council;
- Circulation of press statements issued by the Secretary-General or his Spokesman;
- Group of friends (drafting of resolutions and presidential statements by the group of friends to be carried out in a manner that will allow adequate participation of all members of the Council).

It is recommended that the Working Group undertake a review of implementation of the provisions listed above. The Council needs also to be responsive to the recommendations made by the General Assembly as regards its working methods. In this regard, the Working Group on Documentation and Procedures of the Council could undertake consideration of the General Assembly working group reports. The Council may also undertake a review of the substance, approach and purpose of the monthly assessment.

Monthly wrap-up meeting

The Bangladesh Presidency concluded with a wrap-up discussion on the work of the Security Council for the month of June. This was the first time that such a discussion was held in public, although participation in the discussion was limited to the Council members. The Secretary-General was present during the meeting.

The idea was to undertake an assessment of the work of the Council over the month and identify issues for follow-up. This also provided an occasion to reflect on the Council's working methods and the way matters are pursued by the Council. A number of ideas were expressed in the course of the discussion. The following were, without being exhaustive, the salient points for follow-up:

- The Council should reflect on how the follow-up of issues, not as routine calendar events, but as conscious policy decisions, is to be pursued in a proactive manner.

- The Council should ensure that the Secretary-General is given the human, material, and financial resources to implement its decisions.

- The Council should be proactive. A useful means and a proactive instrument is a Council mission to conflict areas. The Council should have increased recourse to sending missions to conflict areas. The findings and recommendations of the Council missions should be followed up effectively.

- The adoption of resolution 1353 (2001) on cooperation with troop-contributing countries has marked a major step forward. The Council should also give its attention to some of the other operational areas.

- The Secretary-General has reported at some length in his recent report on the Brahimi report implementation, addressing the problems concerning civilian components in peace operations, with the need of larger and wider civilian components in the missions, such as the United Nations Observer Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone. The Council needs to bring that issue into focus.

- The Council's relations with the press, the media and the public need specific attention. We should make an effort to see that the Council's work receives the attention of the outside world. The possibility of having a spokesperson of the Security Council President was discussed informally at the retreat.

- The Council should have increased recourse to open briefings, allowing the full United Nations membership better and more equal access to information regarding developments in international peace and security and related United Nations operations and assistance efforts.

- Opportunities for the Council to have relationships with other United Nations bodies should be increased.

- The question of accountability of the Security Council for its actions needs to be addressed. It was noted that there had been many requests, demands and claims emanating from Member States that are not members of the Council to reflect these views; both the content and the form of the report of the Security Council should be changed.

- Monthly wrap-up meetings should be as informal and interactive as possible. They can be useful as the members try to draw lessons from the past month and think about how they will be working in the future.

- The Council must actively support the Secretary-General's efforts to continue to improve the United Nations peacekeeping machinery; but the Security Council itself, of course, must make its own contribution to this work in accordance with its own competencies.

- It is a good exercise to ask ourselves periodically if we have had a positive impact on the issues that arose for the Council's consideration each month; and, if we have not had a positive impact, we think that we should ask ourselves why, try to find out the reasons, identify the steps that the Council can take and the tools that the Council can try to find and use to inject momentum and progress. Also, of course, the whole objective is to draw lessons, where appropriate, that can be applied in the future.

- The Working Group on Documentation and Procedures should meet regularly to review implementation of the agreed measures and to explore improvement of the working methods and documentation of the Council.

- The Council should prepare for its missions to conflict areas, including through discussion in an informal setting, like the one for the mission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo held during the Pocantico retreat.

- The preparation for Council missions to conflict areas should include brainstorming sessions to define the objectives and strategies.

- There is a need, before the departure of Council missions to conflict areas, for meetings with the troop contributors and with other interested parties who feel they have views to convey about the particular situation, be they United Nations agencies or perhaps even non-governmental organizations, as the situation demands.

- The Council should reflect on the rationalization of its monthly programme of work.

Annex I

Security Council meetings in June 2001

No.	Meetings No.	Date	Subject
1	4324	1 June	The situation between Iraq and Kuwait
2.	4325	5 June	The situation in Afghanistan - Briefing by Ambassador Alfonso Valdivieso, Chairman of the 1333 Committee with the participation of Mr. Haile Menkerios, Chairman of the Committee of Experts on Afghanistan appointed pursuant to Security Council resolution 1333 (2000)
3.	4325 (resumed)	5 June	The situation in Afghanistan - Briefing by Ambassador Alfonso Valdivieso, Chairman of the 1333 Committee with the participation of Mr. Haile Menkerios, Chairman of the Committee of Experts on Afghanistan appointed pursuant to Security Council resolution 1333 (2000)
4.	4326	13 June	Strengthening cooperation with troop contributing countries (S/2001/546)
5.	4327	13 June	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/2001/572) Briefing by Messrs. Guéhenno and Otonnu
6.	4327 (resumed)	13 June	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/2001/572)
7.	4328	15 June	The situation in Cyprus (S/2001/534)
8.	4329	15 June	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/2001/572)
9.	4330	15 June	The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (S/2001/571) Briefing by Jacques Paul Klien
10.	4331	19 June	Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998), 1199 (1998), 12203 (1998), 1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999) (Presentation SC report on mission to Kosovo, FRY by Amb. Chowdhury, the President of the Security Council and the Head of the Mission to Kosovo, FRY)
11.	4332	19 June	The situation in Somalia
12	4333	21 June	The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (S/2001/571)
13.	4334	21 June	Role of the Security Council in the prevention of armed conflicts (S/2001/574) Open debate
14.	4334 (resumed)	21 June	Role of the Security Council in the prevention of armed conflicts (S/2001/574) Open debate
15.	4335	22 June	Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998), 1199 (1998), 1203 (1998), 1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999) Briefing by Mr. Jean-Marie Guéhenno, USG for Peacekeeping Operations

No.	Meetings No.	Date	Subject
16.	4336	26 June	The situation between Iraq and Kuwait (S/2001/597) Open debate
17.	4337 (closed)	27 June	Recommendation for the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations
18.	4338 (closed)	27 June	The situation in Burundi (meeting with Mr. Mathias Sinamenye, second Vice-President of the Republic of Burundi)
19.	4339	28 June	The responsibility of the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security: HIV/AIDS and international peace-keeping operations
20.	4340	28 June	The situation in Sierra Leone (S/2001/627) Briefing by Mr. Andeniji, SRSG for Sierra Leone
21.	4336 (resumed)	28 June	The situation between Iraq and Kuwait (S/2001/597) Open debate
22.	4341	29 June	The situation in Burundi
23.	4342	29 June	The situation concerning Western Sahara
24.	4343	29 June	Wrap-up discussion on the work of the Security Council for the month of June 2001

Annex II

Consultations of the whole of the Security Council held in June 2001

No	Date	Subject
1	1 June 2001	- Iraq (oil-food)
2	4 June 2001	1. Programme of work 2. Other matters - Mission to the Great Lakes Region - Mission to Kosovo - Council procedure with regard to the list of speakers for formal meetings
3	5 June 2001	1. Afghanistan 2. Other matters - Somalia
4	6 June 2001	1. Sierra Leone 2. East Timor 3. Burundi 4. Other matters - The Democratic Republic of the Congo
5	7 June 2001	1. Iraq 2. Other matters - Mission to Kosovo - Afghanistan
6	8 June 2001	1. Report of the Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations 2. Other matters - Somalia - Kosovo
7	11 June 2001	1. Cyprus 2. Other matters - Somalia - Report of the Working Group on Peacekeepi..g Operations - Kosovo - Iraq
8	12 June 2001	1. Democratic Republic of the Congo 2. Other matters - Kosovo - Western Sahara - Cyprus - Somalia
9	14 June 2001	1. Kosovo: Security Council mission on the implementation of resolution 1244 (1999) to Kosovo, FRY 2. Iraq (Oil-for-food Programme) 1. Other matters - DRC - Cyprus - Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sierra Leone (Special Court) - HIV/AIDS - Somalia - Election of the Secretary-General - Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the

		Security Council
10	15 June 2001	1. Iraq (Oil for food) 2. Other matters - Programme of work - Somalia
11	20 June 2001	1. Iraq 2. Other matters - Bosnia and Herzegovina - Format of the 21 June meeting on the Prevention of Armed Conflict - Iraq - Western Sahara - Somalia - Format of the 27 June meeting on the appointment of the Secretary-General
12	25 June 2001	1. Eritrea/Ethiopia 2. Other matters - Appointment of the Secretary-General - Burundi - Iraq - HIV/AIDS - Prevention of Armed Conflict
13	26 June 2001	1. Western Sahara 2. Iraq 3. Other matters - Balkans Luncheon with the Secretary-General
14	27 June 2001	1. Recommendation for the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations 2. Other matters - None
15	27 June 2001 (PM)	1. Burundi 2. Other matters - Western Sahara - Iraq/Kuwait
16	28 June 2001	1. Iraq: Oil for food 2. Western Sahara 3. Other matters - Wrap-up session - Burundi - Recommendation for the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations - Children and armed conflict - Somalia
17	29 June 2001	1. Western Sahara 2. Burundi 3. Other matters - FRY
18	29 June 2001 (PM)	1. Iraq: Oil for food 2. Other matters - Somalia

Annex III

SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS
Adopted in June 2001

Resolution	Date of adoption	Subject
S/RES/1352 (2001)	1 June 2001	The situation between Iraq and Kuwait
S/RES/1353 (2001)	13 June 2001	Strengthening co-operation with troop-contributing countries
S/RES/1354 (2001)	15 June 2001	The situation in Cyprus
S/RES/1355 (2001)	15 June 2001	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo
S/RES/1356 (2001)	19 June 2001	The situation in Somalia
S/RES/1357 (2001)	21 June 2001	The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina
S/RES/1358 (2001)	27 June 2001	Recommendation for the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations
S/RES/1359 (2001)	29 June 2001	The situation concerning Western Sahara

Reports due / to be considered in June 2001

- No Exit Without Strategy – S/2001/394 dated 20 April 2001
- Sierra Leone – Report on refugees and internally displaced persons - S/2001/513 dated 23 May
- Report on Prevention of Armed Conflict – A/55/985- S/2001/574 dated 7 June 2001
- Report on UNFICYP – S/2001/534 dated 30 May 2001
- Fifth report on UNMOVIC – S/2001/515 dated 24 May 2001
- Afghanistan Committee of Experts' report – S/2001/511 dated 24 May 2001
- Eighth report on the DRC – S/2001/752 dated 8 June 2001
- Report on UNMIBH – S/2001/571 dated 7 June 2001
- Report on UNMIK– S/2001/565 dated 7 June 2001

Progress report on Ethiopia - Eritrea (UNMEE) – S/2001/608 dated 19 June 2001
Report on Western Sahara (MINURSO) – S/2001/613 dated 20 June 2001
Report of the Security Council Mission to Kosovo – S/2001/600 dated 19 June 2001
Tenth report on Sierra Leone – S/2001/627 dated 25 June 2001

Statements by the President of the Security Council

In June 2001

S/PRST/2001	Date	Meeting No.	Following Consultations	Subject
16	28 June	4339		The responsibility of the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security: HIV/AIDS and international peacekeeping operations
17	29 June	4341		The situation in Burundi

Annex IV

Statements to the press by the President of the Security Council

Burundi (6 June 2001)

Members of the Council reiterated their strong support for the Arusha Agreement as the basis for the resolution of the conflict in Burundi and were united in the belief that there is no military solution to the conflict. Armed groups should not pursue their agenda through violent means.

Members of the Council endorsed the findings of the Security Council mission to Burundi, and repeated their call on the Forces for National Liberation (FNL) and the Front for the Defence of Democracy (FDD) to enter into the Arusha process and refrain from any violent action.

Members of the Council called on all parties to immediately cease hostilities, and respect human rights and international humanitarian law.

Members of the Council encouraged the dialogue between the Government and the rebels and called upon the countries in the region to use their influence to bring the armed groups into the peace process.

Members of the Council noted the progress made at the third regular session of the Implementation Monitoring Committee, held at Arusha from 28 May to 4 June, in advancing the peace process.

Members of the Council reiterated their full support for the Arusha facilitator, Nelson Mandela, and the regional initiative.

Sierra Leone (6 June 2001)

Members of the Security Council heard a briefing from the Secretariat on the situation in Sierra Leone, in particular the introduction of the Secretary-General's report on the situation of refugees and internally displaced persons in the Mano River Union countries, and held a discussion on the matter.

Council members took note of the recent developments regarding the refugees and the internally displaced persons in these countries and expressed concern at the continuing humanitarian crisis.

Council members appreciated that an additional burden is placed on the host countries and their population as a result of the crisis and commended their efforts in providing asylum, protection and assistance to the large number of refugees and the internally displaced persons.

Council members urged all parties to ensure the human rights and security of all refugees and internally displaced persons as well as the security of the humanitarian personnel working in the subregion.

Council members felt that a phased approach to the return of refugees to Sierra Leone would be practical. They agreed with the three-phased approach of UNHCR to relocate refugees further inland in safer areas in Guinea, provide greater protection and assistance for refugees and internally displaced persons in the border areas and arrange voluntary repatriation of refugees to Sierra Leone. They felt that a comprehensive and detailed plan was needed for the progressive return of refugees to Sierra Leone.

Council members expressed their support for the efforts of UNHCR, UNAMSIL, other United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations in providing assistance to the refugees and the internally displaced persons.

Council members called upon the international community to make the necessary additional resources available in response to the United Nations consolidated appeal for West Africa and the consolidated appeal for Sierra Leone, and also during the donors' conference on financing the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme, to be held in Paris on 11 and 12 June.

Council members expressed their appreciation for the proactive role of UNAMSIL in recent weeks in promoting the peace process.

Council members encouraged the three Heads of State of the Mano River Union countries to enter a process of dialogue for promoting peace in the subregion and appreciated the role of ECOWAS in this regard.

Cyprus (11 June 2001)

Council members heard a briefing from the Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Cyprus, Alvaro de Soto, on the good offices mission. They heard a briefing from the Director of the Asia and Middle East Division of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations on the Secretariat's consultations with the parties about the extension of the UNFICYP mandate and noted the views expressed by the parties.

Council members gave their full support to the Secretary-General's efforts to achieve a comprehensive settlement to the Cyprus problem. Council members reaffirmed all Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, in particular resolution 1251 (1999) of 29 June 1999 and subsequent resolutions. They welcomed and supported his intention to continue with the process he initiated in November 1999 and continued to urge all those involved to engage with him constructively and effectively in the process.

Eritrea and Ethiopia (25 June 2001)

The Secretary-General presented to the members of the Security Council a progress report as at 19 June 2001 (S/2001/608) on the situation between Ethiopia and Eritrea.

The Council members noted the Secretary-General's observations that the situation on the ground has remained generally calm and commended the parties and UNMEE for progress achieved so far. They expressed the view that establishment of a temporary security zone and the functioning of the Boundary Commission and the Claims Commission testified commitment of both countries to the peace process. In that regard, the members strongly supported the continuing efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Legwaila Joseph Legwaila.

However, the Security Council members expressed serious concern over excessive deployment of Eritrean militia and policemen in the temporary security zone as well as the parties' failure to agree on the precise boundaries of the zone. The members also urged the parties to strictly abide by the final map that UNMEE has provided to them.

Members of the Security Council reiterated its call on the countries for the early establishment of a direct air corridor between Asmara and Addis Ababa. At the same time, both parties, particularly Eritrea, are urged to ensure the Mission's freedom of movement. Council members also urged Eritrea to sign the status-of-forces agreement and stressed that both Governments should fulfil their financial obligations to the Boundary Commission's work.

Noting the progress made in demining, the Council members called upon both Eritrea and Ethiopia and the international community to contribute more — financially and otherwise — to ensure full demining of the temporary security zone and its adjacent areas for the safety of returning internally displaced persons and peacekeepers.

In view of the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Eritrea and Ethiopia, the Security Council members urged the international community to respond generously to the United Nations country teams' appeal for humanitarian assistance.

The Council members encouraged the parties, in cooperation with UNMEE, to explore and pursue a range of confidence-building measures and to approach the peace process in a constructive manner without resorting to rhetoric.